

## ACTION

**AGENDA ITEM: Regional Library Network Development**

**ISSUE TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING:** Consider request for network affiliation of new member and request for inclusion of additional participating libraries by existing member.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD:** I move that the Library of California Board approve the request for network affiliation for the potential member listed in Table A, with member services to begin immediately.

**ISSUE 1: Network Affiliation**

Included in **Table A, Request for Network Affiliation for New Member**, is the membership application received from one potential new member. This application has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Tierra del Sol Regional Library Network, and forwarded to the Board for your approval. This member represents three (3) participating libraries.

According to the LoC Regulations, Section 20313, all requests for affiliation with regional library networks shall be approved by regional library networks and forwarded to the State Board for action. Board policy allows for members to begin receiving member benefits immediately upon Board action, although network compensation will be assigned annually upon approval of the State Budget. The application listed below has met the requirements of this regulation.

**Table A**  
**Request for Network Affiliation for New Member**

**TIERRA DEL SOL****Member**

Desert Sands Unified School District

**Participating Libraries**

Indio High School Library

La Quinta High School Library

Palm Desert High School Library Media Center

**Recommendation:**

For the past 2 years, staff has been including approval of new memberships on the Board's Consent Calendar as approval has been a routine Board action. Earlier in the development of LoC, the Board questioned their ability to limit accepting new members based on funding availability. General Counsel Paul Smith responded to the Board by advising that there is nothing in the Act or the Regulations that allows the Board this option. If libraries are approved by their regional library networks for membership, and if they meet all the requirements of the Act, the Board must approve their membership at some point in time. As

there is no funding for either statewide or regional programs for the Library of California in the budget for this fiscal year, and as there is not a significant cost to adding this new member at this time, staff is recommending approval of this membership, with service to begin immediately. Revised membership statistics, including this new member and participating libraries, are attached as Exhibit A.

### **GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:**

**Network membership change:** The Cascade Pacific Library Network has provided notification to the LoC Board that the Trinity County Office of Education is no longer a network member due to not meeting one of the requirements for membership—that of having a certified librarian on staff (see Exhibit B). The Board is not required to take action on network membership reductions. This change in membership is reflected in the revised membership statistics included as Exhibit A.

**Network status:** In March 2003, Regional Library Networks were asked to provide the status of their network by indicating their plans to continue operations. With no funding for the current fiscal year, submitting the annual plan of service was an option. The following is a summary of responses from each of the regions:

**Cascade Pacific:** Continue operations through 2003/04 by seeking grant funding for basic services. The Council authorized its board to take actions necessary to maintain services and to fulfill the mission of CPLN.

**Golden Gateway:** Suspend operations as of July 1, 2003. The Council authorized the suspension of the GGLN operations for 2003/04.

**Sierra Valley:** Continue operations during 2003/04 using reserves. The Plan of Service stated that:

- SVLN will continue administrative support to facilitate meetings of the Council, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee, and review applications from potential members;
- Maintain network Web site and listserv to share all relevant information;
- Provide minimal levels of technical assistance (onsite and remote) to network members;
- Deliver materials within available resources to network members based on the identified needs of the member library user;
- Provide training in reference and technology in response to an informal needs assessment of network members. May be available only on a cost-recovery basis or as resources are available.

**Arroyo Seco:** The Council voted to continue as an organization through 2003/04 for the purpose of sharing library resources.

**Tierra del Sol:** Continue operations during 2003/04 using reserves. The Plan of Service stated that TdS is able to continue minimal services because the staff of the Inland Library System is willing to absorb many new responsibilities into their workload. The network is working with Inland staff to provide limited reference service and some interlibrary loan services.

**Heartland:** Suspend operations and activities funded by the LoC to the member libraries for 2003/04, or until funds are restored. The Region will maintain limited administrative support.

**Gold Coast:** Continue to provide cooperative services. The Council voted to continue as a duly constituted library network under the laws of the State of California.

**RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:**

1. Consider additional membership/participating library applications from institutions and/or public library jurisdictions.
2. Consider transitional issues related to regional library network services.

Relevant Committee: Resource Sharing  
Staff Liaison: Diana Paque